

## THE HAWAIIAN STAR

DAILY AND SEMI-WEEKLY.

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1906.

## UNWISE.

The news of our territorial bill is by no means as encouraging as it was by the last mail. The Senate has asked for a conference committee, and a good many of our principal men think that there is quite a chance of the bill not being passed during the present session.

Under these circumstances it seems very unwise for us on the Islands to split up into factions and parties until we have our actual status assured. When we were struggling for annexation we did not do our work upon party lines. Our aim, and our platform, was annexation, and nothing else. It was not annexation to the Republican party or to the Democratic party, but it was annexation to the United States.

So now with the territorial bill. We do not want to antagonize the Republicans, nor do we want to antagonize the Democrats. We have friends in both parties. We have among our leading men here, who have struggled for annexation and who are doing their utmost to further the territorial bill, those who are Republican in sympathy, and those who are Democratic in sympathy, but they are united as to their views upon the territorial needs.

It therefore seems unwise to start out upon organizations such as it is proposed to form tonight. What we want is unity upon our main desire. We can run our party divisions upon party lines afterwards, but do not let us make the mistake of sending out to the Mainland press any statement that we are all Republicans or all Democrats; that we favor gold or we favor silver, or the dozen other great issues which perfectly honest and honorable men differ upon. It may be useless to give advice to hot headed partisans, but a careful consultation with leading business men, men whose property interests are of great value, shows that the consensus of opinion among them is that the meeting called for this evening is a very unwise step, and likely to be detrimental to the main issue at stake, and they urge that the best thing to do at the present crisis in our affairs is not to hold any meeting at all. The advice is good and it should be laid to heart. United we advance; divided we fall.

## A SERIOUS QUESTION.

Gulliver, a seaman who traveled far and wide, and whose biography has been put into excellent English by the late lamented Dean Swift, of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, Ireland, has left some valuable remarks upon the strange and wonderful countries that he visited. He saw life, in his time from the smallest to the greatest. From Lilliput to Brodignag. The names in themselves being a creation of genius, one of them holding its own in our language under the adjective "Lilliputian," which is incorporated in our tongue at present.

In his researches, Gulliver studied the politics of the countries, which he visited, and learned many things which succeeding generations have studied most assiduously. Indeed it has often been remarked that while we introduce Defoe, Mrs. Marcey, Browning, Shakespeare, Whittier, Longfellow and others into the curriculum of our literary courses, the works of Mr. Gulliver do not have that attention that they should have.

Take for instance that terrible feud which brought dire disaster to Lilliput. It is a well known one, the intrigues of the "Big Endians" against the "Little Endians." It was a question of eating eggs. Should you eat them from the small or the big end? Naturally parties were formed, and as the strength of votes came, those who were adverse to the dominant party, no matter what their ability might be, were ignominiously turned out of office. And the thing was perfectly justifiable. Could a man be a good judge if he chipped off the big end of his egg, when a little end ministry was in power? Could a collector-general of customs of the port of Lilliput do his duty if he chipped off the small end of his egg for breakfast, when the Big Endians were running the country? Neither proposition could be entertained for an instant. The newspapers of Lilliput teemed with excellent articles on the subject, but unfortunately Mr. Gulliver lost his scrap-book in one of his many wrecks.

But Gulliver, after all, was but a transient traveler, and though he got a job as Admiral of the Fleet, he quit, like Admiral Dewey, and politics were his ruin. He had to quit even Lilliput and Blafascu the rival territory. The later history of Lilliput comes from another pen. It is a very rare work and The Star felicitates its readers on the few notes that it has received at imminent risk.

After Gulliver's departure, the rank and file began to think. They slowly realized that when the "Little Endians" were in power, all eggs went to them,

not an egg to any one outside the party. It is presumable that—but there, it would not be fair to mention Tim Murray's name, who ever gave the advice was sound.

But then the hungry Lilliputians when they turned to the "Big Endians" and sent them to the top of the heap with a "whoop and holla," while the "Little Endians" had to hunt their holes, and pull them in afterwards, found they got no more eggs than before. All the eggs were required for the party, and still Lilliput got hungry and could not get jobs for its younger sons, and not even a commission as policeman before the Queen's palace—that portion which was desecrated during the celebrated fire in Gulliver's time. Those who have studied Dean Swift's works will remember that there was a little scandal connected with the event—and Jim Kennedy said—but that is a secret.

Finally these wretched Lilliputians said, "we will have nothing to do with either Big Endians, or Little Endians in our local affairs. What we want is a share of the national eggs for the best of our people. We do not care which end they may chip their eggs," they even got a head of Hogan, a lyric poet of a future century, and used as a refrain to one of their silly campaign songs "all eggs look alike to me," which had quite a run through the Kingdom. And these wretched people went and elected men to their local offices on that outrageous platform, and were better ruled, had their finances better administered, and were happier than ever they were before. Which shows what a fairy story has been told by the traveler after Gulliver. For it is certain no country can get on without its Big Endians and its Little Endians.

## THE BOER WAR.

The Boer war has again entered upon an aggressive stage and reports of a vast movement forward fill the papers. The question whether the plans which Lord Roberts has laid for bringing the raiding masses of the Boers to action, by cutting off their retreat northward will be settled in a very short time. A victory under such circumstances would relieve Mafeking, and clear the west side of the Orange Free State. That done, the advance on Pretoria could be pushed rapidly. Lord Roberts' strategy is to be depended upon; it is of the slow, but sure kind, and as he is a man who keeps his own council his plans do not leak out. Many of his higher officers do not even know his objective point until the last moment. In this way, whatever the commander in chief succeeds in doing, comes as a surprise.

The roads are reported as in bad condition, and this, of course, will considerably delay in advancing and bringing up supplies. On the other hand disease, which has been prevalent among the horses, ceases with the cold weather, so that the animals will be the better able to stand the strain that they will be put to. It must be remembered that this is the beginning of winter on the other side of the equator.

Sir Charles Warren has been removed from active service and sent to take charge of a remote dependency west of the Orange River Free State. This marks the commander in chief's displeasure over his mismanagement at the Spion Kop disaster. General Gatacre has been sent back to England. What will happen to Buller remains to be seen. These changes will send new men to take charge of important commands, and will undoubtedly result in preventing the useless loss of life which these generals caused.

Though active measures are again in progress, it cannot be said at present that the end of the war is in sight.

The contract which the labor element in San Francisco is denouncing is no contract at all. There is no penal clause, and any of the Austrian gentlemen who recently went to Honolulu are perfectly at liberty to return, should he wish to, there is nothing to prevent him doing so.

The prospects for the endowment of the Hospital for Incurables are very good. Minister Young is working energetically and systematically in the matter, and feels assured that the \$100,000 will be subscribed very shortly. Minor subscriptions should be sent to the treasurer, S. E. Damon, at Bishop & Co's bank.

As soon as the organic law gets into working order we may look forward to a series of fortifications, or fortified earthworks being commenced around Honolulu. There will be considerable naval and military stores kept in Honolulu and its vicinity, and these will have to be protected against sudden attack. We may have opportunity of seeing some large guns of position placed on the heights around the town.

The policeman who played the "plague" fake upon a drunken crowd last Saturday, did a clever thing, but it was not original. The game has been played with small-pox, yellow fever and other contagious disease. In most cases it has been used to aid criminals to avoid punishment. Come to think of it, perhaps this is first time that the trick has been used in the interests of law and order.

The imports of the Islands, in spite of the plague show a wonderful increase, for the first quarter of 1906. The total increase is somewhat over a million and quarter. The figures for exports will shortly be available and then some comparison can be made, but reasoning by analogy after looking over the reports of the Collector-General for 1899, the imports, even at this high figure will fall far below the exports, and for a Territory in our position that tells a very favorable tale.

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